MATTIONI, LTD

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Attorneys for Plaintiffs

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

(Camden Vicinage)

Lee Welded Mesh Singapore Pte Ltd.	:	CIVIL ACTION
No 7 Toas Avenue 16, Jurong	:	
Singapore 638934	:	
and	•	
QBE Insurance (International) Ltd.	(4)	
60 Anson Road #11-01	327	
Mapletree Anson	•	
Singapore 079914	:: (**) (*)	
Plaintiff(s)	*	
V. V.		
M/V DD VICTORY, her engines, machinery,		
•		
tackle, apparel, etc.	686	
and	1	
DD Shipping Limited S.A.	•	
2 nd Floor building 1		
Snegovaya Street 1		
Vladivostok, 690087, Russian Federation	:	
and		
Sound Travel SA		C.A. No.:
c/o DD Shipping Ltd SA		
World Trade Center,	(\$)	
Apdo 0832-0588, Panama City, Panama	820	
Defendant(s)	0.00	
Detendant(s)	(19)	

VERIFIED COMPLAINT IN ADMIRALTY IN REM AND IN PERSONAM

Plaintiffs, by and through their undersigned attorneys, bring this civil action against Defendants and upon information and belief aver as follows:

- 1. Plaintiffs bring this suit against Defendants under the provisions of 28 U.S.C. Section 1333, as this is an admiralty and maritime claim within the meaning of Rule 9(h) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the specific procedures of said Rules relative to admiralty actions.
- 2. Venue lies within this District pursuant to the provisions of 28 U.S.C. Section 1391 and under the provisions of the General Maritime Law.
- 3. At all times material hereto, Plaintiff, Lee Welded Mesh Singapore Pte Ltd., (hereinafter "Lee Welded Mesh" or "Plaintiff"), with offices at the address set forth in the caption, was and is a business entity duly organized and existing under the laws and was and is a shipper and/or consignee and/or importer and/or receiver of the cargo hereinafter mentioned, inter alia.
- 4. At all times material hereto, Plaintiff, QBE Insurance (International) Ltd. (hereinafter "QBE" or "Plaintiff"), with offices at the address set forth in the caption, was and is a business entity duly organized and existing under the laws and was and is an insurance company who issued a policy of insurance to Lee Welded Mesh or others for the cargo hereinafter mentioned.
- 5. Upon information and belief, at all times hereinafter mentioned, the Defendant M/V DD VICTORY (hereinafter "vessel"), was and still is a vessel operated as a common and/or private carrier of goods in ocean transportation and upon information and belief, she is now, or will be during the pendency of this action, within this District and subject to the jurisdiction of this Honorable Court.

- 6. Upon information and belief, at all times material hereto, Defendant, DD Shipping Limited S.A. (hereinafter "DD Shipping" or "Defendant"), was and still is a business entity duly organized and existing under the law, with the address set forth in the caption, and was the beneficial owner and/or disponent owner and/or charterer and/or manager and/or operator of the vessel.
- 7. Upon information and belief, at all times material hereto, Defendant, Sound Travel S.A. (hereinafter "Sound Travel" or "Defendant"), was and still is a business entity duly organized and existing under the law, with the address set forth in the caption, and was the owner and/or disponent owner and/or charterer and/or manager and/or operator of the vessel.
- 8. Plaintiff Lee Welded Mesh was the shipper and/or consignee and/or owner of the cargo described within.
- 9. Plaintiff QBE, has made a payment to Lee Welded Mesh or others for the losses and damages to the cargo hereinafter described, and is subrogated to the interests of Lee Welded Mesh and/or others to the extent of the payment.
- 10. Lee Welded Mesh and QBE bring this action on their behalf and as agents and trustees on behalf of and for the interest of all parties who may be or become interested in said shipment, as their respective interests may ultimately appear, and Plaintiffs are entitled to maintain this action.
- 11. Plaintiffs and all other parties in interest have duly performed all valid conditions precedent to the contracts of carriage on their part to be performed.
- 12. At all times material hereto, Defendant were and are now engaged in the business of common and/or private carriage of merchandise by water for hire and owned, operated, managed, chartered, possessed and/or controlled various vessels, including the vessel, as

common and/or private carriers of merchandise for hire.

13. Upon information and belief, vessels owned, operated, managed, chartered, possessed and/or controlled by Defendants have used the ports of the State of New Jersey, discharged and loaded cargo therein, been supplied services and stores therein, and Defendants are subject to service of process under the applicable admiralty practice and the statutes of the State of New Jersey.

COUNT I

- 14. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the averments contained in all preceding paragraphs of the Complaint, inclusive, with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.
- 15. On or about July 9, 2011, at the Port of ICDAS Turkey Port, (hereinafter "port of loading") there was shipped and delivered to the vessel and Defendants as common and/or private carriers, a cargo of Hot Rolled High Tensile Deformed Steel Bar ("cargo") then being in good order and condition and the vessel and Defendants then and there accepted said cargo so shipped and delivered to them, and in consideration of certain agreed freight charges, executed and delivered certain bills of lading including but not limited to bill of lading 1 (attached as Exhibit A), or other contracts of carriage, signed and delivered to the shippers of said cargo by Defendants, or by the Master of the vessel and/or his duly authorized agent, agreed to transport and carry the said shipment to the destination stated therein and there, deliver the same in like good order and condition as when shipped, delivered to and received by them, to the consignees named in the bill of lading, or to the consignee's order.
- 16. Thereafter, Defendants loaded the said merchandise on the vessel, which having on board said merchandise sailed from the port of loading and arrived at the port of Singapore but the cargo was not in the same good order and condition as when delivered to Defendants and

the vessel, but rather, the cargo was seriously impaired in value by reason of sustaining physical damage, including rust, and/or shortage, *inter alia*.

- 17. The loss of and damage to the cargo was not caused by any act or omission of Plaintiffs or those for whom they may be responsible, but instead was caused by the unseaworthiness of the vessel and the violation of Defendants' duties and obligations as common carriers by water for hire, and/or private carriers by water for hire, and the breach of Defendants' contracts of carriage and other agreements with Plaintiffs or others.
- 18. By reason of the unseaworthiness of the vessel, and/or Defendants' violation of their duties as common and/or private carriers and/or by reason of Defendants' breach of the contracts of carriage and other agreements with Plaintiffs or others, Plaintiffs have sustained damages presently estimated to be in excess of One Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,800,000.00) plus interest, costs and attorney's fees. Plaintiffs reserve the right to increase this amount should their losses ultimately be in excess thereof.
 - 19. By reason of the aforesaid, Plaintiffs have a maritime lien on the vessel.

 WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray that:
- (a) Process of arrest in due form of law according to the practice of this

 Honorable Court in causes of admiralty and maritime claims may issue against the vessel, her
 engines, boilers, etc. as provided in the Supplemental Admiralty Rules of the Federal Rules of
 Civil Procedure; that all persons having or claiming any interest therein be cited to appear and
 answer, under oath, all and singular, the matters herein; that judgment be entered in favor of
 Plaintiffs for the damages as aforesaid, with interest, costs and attorney's fees; that the said vessel
 be condemned and sold and the proceeds of said sale be brought into this Court and applied to
 pay Plaintiffs the sums found due them.

- (b) Process in due form of law according to the practice of this Honorable Court may issue against Defendants citing them to appear and answer, under oath, all and singular the matters herein.
- (c) If Defendants cannot be found within this District, then all of their property, credits and/or effects in the possession of any person, partnership, or corporation, including any vessel owned or operated by said Defendants be attached as provided in the Supplemental Admiralty Rules of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in an amount double the above claimed damages.
- (d) Judgment be entered in favor of Plaintiffs and against Defendants, jointly or severally, for the damages as aforesaid, with interest, costs and attorney's fees.
- (e) The Court grant such other and further relief to Plaintiffs as in law and justice they may be entitled to receive.

COUNT TWO

- 20. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the averments of all preceding paragraphs, inclusive, with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.
- 21. The loss of and damage to the cargo was caused by the carelessness, negligence, breach of duty or breach of warranty and lack of due care of Defendants.
- 22. By reason of the Defendants' carelessness, negligence, breach of duty or breach of warranty and lack of due care, Plaintiffs have sustained damages presently estimated to be in excess of One Million Eight Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,800,000.00) plus interest, costs and attorney's fees. Plaintiffs reserve the right to increase this amount should their losses ultimately be in excess thereof.
 - 23. By reason of the aforesaid, Plaintiffs have a maritime lien on the vessel.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray that:

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- (d) Judgment be entered in favor of Plaintiffs and against Defendants, jointly or severally, for the damages as aforesaid, with interest, costs and attorney's fees.
- (e) The Court grant such other and further relief to Plaintiffs as in law and justice they may be entitled to receive.

MATTIONI, LTD.

By:

GEORGE R. ZACHARKOW STEPHEN J. GALATI Attorney for Plaintiffs

Date: February 10, 2012

Of Counsel: Martin F. Casey, Esquire Casey & Barnett, LLC 65 West 36th Street, 9th Floor New York, NY 10018

VERIFICATION BY WAY OF UNSWORN DECLARATION

I am a member of the law firm of Mattioni, Ltd., counsel for the Plaintiff(s), in this matter. I make this certification pursuant to and in compliance with Supplemental Rules B and C and the local admiralty rules of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey.

Plaintiffs are business entities and there are no authorized representative of the Plaintiffs readily available in the District to make this verification and/or due to time constraints Plaintiffs are unable to execute this declaration; I am authorized to make this Declaration on behalf of Plaintiffs; the facts set forth in the foregoing Complaint are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, except as to matters therein stated upon information and belief, and as to these matters, I believe them to be true; the sources of my information and the grounds of my belief are documents in the possession of my firm and reports made to me by officers, employees, representatives and agents of Plaintiffs.

I further verify that, to the best of my information and belief, Defendant Sound Travel SA is the owner of the Defendant vessel, and neither Defendant can be found within this District. As counsel for Plaintiffs, we have checked the on-line telephone directory for the State of New Jersey, have checked the New Jersey Corporations Bureau and have checked the Port Directory for the Port of Philadelphia and have found no references to existence of an office, telephone, mail drop or resident agent for service of process for any Defendant within the State of New Jersey.

Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746, I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on February 10, 2012 at Philadelphia, PA.

Stephen J. Galati

EXHIBIT A

SHIPPER BILLS OF LADING ICOAS DELIK EHERJI TERSANE VE ULASM SANAYI A.S. JA212 GUNESLI BAGCILAR, MITANBUL TURKEY CONSIGNEE TO DROCK OF DBS BANK LTD , SINGAPORE THE MANE OF THE MANYER OF MAY DO VICTORY CANTAN SARGHERICH ROWSTANTIN MOTIFY ADDRESS LEE WELDED MESH SINGAPORE PTE LTD NO 7 TUAS AVENUE 16, JURONO SINGAPORE 638934 The Versel Hama MAY DO VICTORY IGDAS TURKEY PORT Pen of Dissharps SEMSAWANG PORT, SINGAPORE BRIEFLY DESCRIBING GOODS LOADED ON BOARD VESSEL DATE LOADED. 06:07.2011 SHIPPED ON BOARD UNDER DECK HOT ROLLED HIGH TENSILE DEFORMED STEEL BAR TOTAL QUANTITY (THEORETICAL WEIGHT): 25.713.745 MT TOTAL NUMBER OF BUNCLES: (2554 AGTUAL WEIGHT: 25.015.300 MT QUANTITY PER SIZE
LENGTH (THEORETICAL WEIGHT)
TZM 988-540 MT
12W 1,393-560 MT
13W 3,574-584 MT NUMBER OF BUNDLE ERAS TASIMANAL INTAINE SIZE PER SIZE TEMM \$00 700 INSKAT OF THICKET ASSESSED HINELIS 200004 1800 256454 256464 256464 256464 256464 3256464 3256464 3256464 3256464 3256464 3256464 353,035 MT 394,394 MT 199 11/4 13/4 13/4 13/4 10/4 591.184 MT 4,398.332 MT 482.462 MT 297 2214 241 281 420 252 418 2065 289 527.011 MT 534,513 MT 505.836 MT 1)M 12M 13M 14M 3M 841.385 MT 1,065.407 MT 529.586 MT 328/M 406/M 406/M 406/M 406/M 406/M 406/M 903.891 MT 291.856 MT 475.888 MT 240 148 233 231 235 1719 10M 11M 12M 13M 478,200 set 464,274 MT 3,467,665 MT 466,059 MT TOTAL 25,711,740 MT dries Hide DOISO YTHAN HETRAN 02.07.2011 FREIGHT ADVANCE served on account of height PLACE AND DATE OF ISSUE ISTANBUL 09,07,2011 THE COLT PRESENCE NUMBER OF ORIGINAL BALL SONATURE ne accretion and on echalt of the baster. Aptage Zaberrery Konstantin A (THREE) FRAS INTERESTED AND INTEREST MEANT OF THE RET THE METALESHE

CHARTER PARTY BILLS OF LADING TO BE USED WITH CHARTER-PARTIES CODE NAME "CONGENBILL" **EDITION 1994** ADOPTED BY THE BALTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MARITIME COUNCIL (BIMCO)

Conditions of Carriage

(1) All terms and conditions, liberties and exceptions of the Charter Party, dated as overleaf, including the Law and Arbitration Clause are herewith incorporated.

(2) General Parampunt Clause

(a) The Hague Rules contained in the International Convention for the Unification of certain rules relating to Bills of Lading, gaters Brussels the 25th August 1924 as enacted in the country of shipment, shall apply to this Bill of Lading. When no such enactment is in force in the country of shipment the corresponding legislation of the country of destination shall apply but in respect of shipments to which no such enactments are compulsory applicable, the terms of the said Convention shall apply.

(b) Trades where Hague-Visby Rules apply.

In trades where the internationa Brussels Convention 1924 as amended by the Protocol signed at Brussels on February 23rd 1968 - the Haque Visby Rules - apply compulsorily, the provisions of the respective legislation shall apply to this Bill of Lading.

(c) The Carrier shall in no case be responsible for loss or damage to the cargo, howsdayer arising prior to loading into and after discharge from the Vessel or while the cargo is in the charge of another Carrier, no in respect of deck cargo or live animals.

(3) General Average

General Average shall be adjusted, stated and settled according to York Antworp Rules 1994, or any subsequent modification thereof, in London, unless another place is agreed in the Charter Party. Cargo's contribution to General Average shall be paid to the Carner even when such average is the result of a fault, neglect or error of the Master, Pilot or Crew. The Charterers, Shippers and Consignees expressly renounce the Commercial Code, Part II. Art. 148

(4) Now Jason Clause.

In the event of accident, danger, damage or disaster before or after the commencement of the voyage, resulting from any cause whatsoever, whether due to negligence or not, for which, or for the consequence of which, the Carrier is not responsible by statute, contract or otherwise, the cargo, shippers, consignees or the owners of the cargo shall contribute with the Ca General Average to the payment of any secrifices, losses or expenses of a General Average nature that may be or incurre and shall pay salvage and special charges incurred in respect of the cargo, if a salving vessel is owned or operated by the Carrier. salvage shall be paid for as fully as if the said salving vessel or vessels belonged to strengers. Such deposit as the Carrier, or his agents, may deem sufficient to cover the estimated contribution of the goods and any salvage and special charges thereon shall, if required, be made by the cargo, shippers consignees or owners of the goods to the Carrier before delivery.

(5) Both-to-Blame Collision Clause

If the Vessel comes into collision with another vessel as a result of the negligence of the other vessel and any act, neglect or default of the Master, Mariner, Pilot or the servants of the Carrier in the navigation or in the management of the Vessel, the owners of the cargo carried hereunder will indemnify the Carrier against all loss or liability to the other of non-carrying vessel or her owners in so far as such loss or liability represents loss of, or damage to, or any claim whatsoever of the owners of said cargo, paid or payable by the other or non-carrying vessel or her owners of said cargo and set-off, recouped or recovered by the other or noncarrying vessel or her owners as part of their claim against the carrying Vessel or the Carrier.

The foregoin EDIVEROID NEED OF THE SOURCE OF THE OWNERS, operation of those in charge of any vessel or vessels or objects other than; or in addition to the collision or contract.

Upon payment of all charges Street Processing the contract.

For DBS BANK LTD Fredu/sh

For particulars of cargo, freight Destination, etc., see overlent.